71 2009.085.05373



Thomas Lincoln Family

Grandparents
Bathsheba

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

LINCOLN'S GRANDMOTHERS.

Abraham Lincoln's ancestry improves with every new research. The identification of his two lost grandmothers by the Rev. William E. Barton of Oak Hills, Ill., lends support to the theory that Lincoln's progenitors were of good stock.

Bathsheba of the respectable Herring family is revealed as Lincoln's grandmother. She replaces Mary Shipley. "The Shipleys," says Barton, "were created out of less material than went into the making of Eve." It was Bathsheba who was known as "the Widow Lincoln." It was she who led the family a difficult journey through the Cumberland Gap.

Lincoln himself attributed his inherited ability, as well as his good rearing, to the other side of the family, "All that I am I owe to my mother," he said. This mother, Nancy Hanks, was born out of wedlock, in the belief of Lincoln himself. Nancy's mother was Lucy Hanks. Now, the Rev. Mr. Barton claims to have found court records of minor matters in which her name is involved. He asserts that after the birth of Lincoln's mother Lucy married, and claims to have uncarthed a specimen of her hand-writing, as follows: "I do sertify that I am of age, and give my approbation freely for Henry Sparrow to get our lisons this. day or any other day.-Given under my hand-April 26, 1790-Lucy Hanks." Lincoln held to the belief that his mother was the daughter of Lucy Hanks and a Virginia gentleman of high standing.

The scramble for ancestors is a desperate one, especially in this country, where genealogy is comparatively hazy. Still the search generally bears fruit. There is always an extra berth on the Mayflower, into which one's great-great-great-greatgrandfather may be tucked. But the search for distinguished ancestors for Lincoln has not been particularly successful. What his biographers have proved is that his family on both sides came of good solid stock, but not aristocratic stock. From such antecedents have sprung many of the world's greatest men. 3/12/2

CHRISMAN AND CHRISMAN

WILLIAM H. CHRISMAN

ROSWELL H. CHRISMAN

PHILIP C. COCKERILL

Mr Louis A. Warren.

June 28th, 1929.

Mr Louis A. Warren. Fort Wayne Indiana, My Dear Sir.

Enclosed find a copy of Memoirsof Lincoln
By Herring Chrisman, am sending you this at the request of
Mr Louis Block of Bollinger and Block of Davenport, Iowa.
It just so happens that I up at 3 A.M.

and have been looking through a heavy box of Fathers, writings and find a written lacture on Lincoln in his own hand writing, at least 15 & 1/4 pages of it and posibly may have some more printing done,.

Please write to Mr Block and let him know You have received the Memoirs.

Yours Very Truly.

W. H. Chrisman.

P.S. hu Bollinger was in our low class, he furnishes the energy.

July 1, 1929 Mr. W. H. Chrisman Mapleton, Iows Dear Mr. Chrisman: Memoirs of Lincoln by Harris Chrisman.

Please accept my thanks for the booklet.

I have read it with a great deal of interest and hope that you may be successful in the lecture delivered by Harris Chrisman also for

Respectfully yours.

Director Lincoln Historical Research Foundation

LAN: LH

CHRISMAN AND CHRISMAN ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW MAPLETON, IOWA

RECIDING NATION AND THE MAN THE MENT OF PARTIES AND ASSESSMENT OF PART

July. 7th, 1930.

Dr Louis A. Warren, Fort Wayne Indiana. Dear Dr Warren,

We are publishing a little book of about 20.000 words some 60 pages, 6 by 9, inches writings of Herring Chrisman' reprinting the Memoirs of Lincoln' and adding about as much more this last part include some conversation. Mr Chrisman had with Mr Lincoln, in Springfield between the Election, and Mr Lincoln's inauguration, principally in regard to keeping Virginia from secesion.

Could you tell me where I could get plate of Mr -incolnthat would be appropriate to go on one of the front pages of this book.

you use, on your #nvelope. we down want to intrude on others, but want the best face we can get,

Any suggestion as to where

we can get the p roper negative, will be appreciated Yours Very Truly.

W.H. Chrisman.

21-

CHRISMAN AND CHRISMAN
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

eferred to MAPLETON, IOWA

Red'd JUL 30 1990

Answered

LIFE INSURANCE CO.

ugter Now mexica July 24 to 1930,

Lincoln Vational Life Frank. Wayne Indiana Lion Sirs,

I saw a fricture of

Mr Lincoln on your 1930, calendar in the Brulington tichel- office in Donner a dog er hvo a go, u hich It I fail to get the . I like vry much, picture of Sincoln tohen the day Men Lincoln appointed General Grown. head of all the Minion forces, mand it- mest with your pleasant for me to use that I wishine in ruy Wille book, about Lincoln & it so now could I get a vegotive, a copy of the precture to have om mode, your try (mly W. H. Chisman,
agtie oven hexi'ar,

August 1, 1930

NO STREET WITHOUT PERSONS ASSESSED.

Emple Alm Chemida.

Mr. W. H. Chrisman
Mapleton, Iowa

DESCRIPTION OF RELEASE

My dear Mr. Chrisman:

Your letter came while I was away on my vacation and until now I have not had an opportunity to interview the proper authorities relative to the use of our copyright portrait of Lincoln.

I am pleased to advise you that I have secured permission from the proper authorities for your use of this picture and under separate cover I take pleasure in enclosing a copy.

We trust that your "Memoirs of Lincoln" in its reprinted form may be well received.

A THE SALE OF THE PERSON OF TH

Respectfully yours,

Lincoln Historical Research Foundation.

LAN: VL

swup bity,

CHRISMAN AND CHRISMAN ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW MAPLETON, IOWA

Aug, 10th, 1930.

Mr Louis A. Warren. Fort Wayne Indiana

My Dear I'r Warren

Your letter of Aug Ist and also the picture mentioned are very thankfully received, I Just returned Friday evening from a trip in New Lexico or should have answered before,.

was much pleased find your letter, and the picture, and also a copy of corrected proof of the work we are having done at the Verstgen Printing Co, a good many mistakes in the first set up of the type but in hopes to get it in attractive shape.

Hoping it may be worth while.

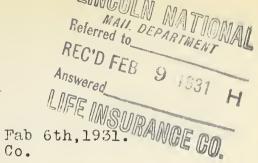
Yours Very Truly.

W. H. Chrisman.

P. S. When I get it finished which may be some little time I will send you a copy and posibly we can get some mention of it in the Lincoln Lore.

W.H.C.

CHRISMAN AND CHRISMAN ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW MAPLETON, IOWA



The Lincoln National Life Insurance Co. Fourt Wayne Indiana.
Dear Sirs.

I am sending you a book that we have just gotten a copy of yesterday, I am having some printed, You furnished me with the picture of Mr Lincoln and am anxious for you to see it, and posibly you would make mention in the Lincoln Lore, its so Near Lincoln Birthday, I have your letters at the house,

but am sending this along by this evening train .

Thanking you so much for the Cut of Mr

Lincoln and with kind regards.
Yours Very Truly.

W.H. Chrisman,

CHRISMAN AND CHRISMAN ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW MAPLETON, IOWA

Feb, 7th, 1931.

Dr Leuis A. Warren. Fort Wayne Indiana. My Dear Dr Warren.

We mailed to the Lincoln National, Life Insurance Company one of our"NEMOIRS OF LINCOLN, Yesterday, the 6th . Since then the invitation came from the Lincoln Historical Research Foundation, to attend the Dedicatory Service, on the 11th at Fort Wayne I would live dearly to do so,.

We are assisting in loading a car today for the Dryed out district of Arkansas, and so many things always to occupy one at home, that seems unwise to do any thing for pleasure alone.

Would it be worth while for me to bring some of these books if I should get away and run over there, Thanking you for the invitation.

Yours Very Truly.

W. H. Chrisman.

February 10, 1931 north little Own Res Workship Printer

> Mr. W. H. Chrisman Mapleton, Town

My dear Mr. Chrisman: On behalf of the Lincoln Historical Research Foundation I wish to thank you for your book "Memoirs of Lincoln" which arrived today and which we are very glad to add to our collection of Lincolniana.

We expect a very fine group here for our dedication exercises and we would be very glad if you could come. Possibly you might meet a great many students here that would warrant your Lincoln publication as we expect quite a group from out of the state.

Very sincerely yours,

Director Lincoln Historical Research Foundation

the Commission in second

LAW: LH

Total Control

May 12, 1931

Mr. Wm. Herring Chrisman Mapleton, Iowa

My dear Mr. Chrisman:

Thank you for forwarding to me your acknowledgment of your book containing the memoirs of Lincoln with their review by Judge James W. Bolling.

We are very glad to have this brief

item.

Respectfully yours.

Lincoln Historical Research Foundation

LAW: VY L.A. Warren August 9, 1932

CHO MAIL OF SHIP

Ci Lici II. (Erro Tori orre in Link Barr Diethir mersil

Mr. W. H. Chrismen

My dear Mr. Chrisman:

It has occurred to me that you might like to have several copies of the current issue of Lincoln Lore to send to some of your Herring relatives in hope that they may be able to discover some family traditions yet unpublished.

THE STATE OF BUTTONS OF

Mr. 11th, 1124

We are very anxious, of course, to get some documentary evidence that will establish without any question the status of Bersheba, widow of Abraham Lincoln.

If you need more copies of this publication, kindly write to us.

Very sincerely yours,

LAW: LH

Director Lincoln Historical Research Foundation

PERSONAL PROPERTY AND INCIDENCE.

CHRISMAN AND CHRISMAN ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW MAPLETON, IOWA

Aug, 18th, 1932.

Dr Louis A.Warren, Fort Wayne Indiana. Dear Doctor Warren,

"Demand Organization" of Chicago, is soliciting the board of Trustees of the Methodist Hospital of Sioux City, to enter into a contract whereby his company will undertake to raise some \$250.000 by borrowing from trustees and Ministers and friends of the Hospital and giving insurance policies in return the hospital to keep up the premiums on the policies for a term of years.

In Sanem is proposing to use the Lincoln

National Life of Fort Wayne as the Insurance Co.

Being a member of the board and the Hospital People ar soliciting loans, what you might have to say about the ability of Mr Sanem to carry out such a proposition and if the Insurance Co are favorable

to those deals.

Yours Very truly. W. H. Chiisman

W.H.Chrisman.

August 26, 1932

the New Arthorn of the remain Photos or any

CHRISTIAN THREELIN

THE STORMAN

Mr. W. H. Chrisman

Chrisman and Chrisman

Mapleton, Iowa

LOUGH T DESTROY

My deer Mr. Chrisman:

We can recommend most highly the "Demand Organization" of Chicago whose representative is solicting the board of Trustees of the Methodist Hospital of Sioux City to enter into a contract with them.

The same of

We would appreciate very much your consideration of their proposition.

We hope you will be at the dedication of our Lincoln statue. Your invitation will follow.

Sim erely,

Lincoln Historical Research Foundation

LAW/H

CHRISMAN AND CHRISMAN ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW MAPLETON, IOWA

Sept. 11th, 1932.

De Louis A. Warren. Fort Wayne Indiana Read Dr Warren.

The very much appreciated invitation to attend the Dedication of the Bronze Statute of Abraham Lincoln-The Hoosier Youth by Paul Manship has been received while I would so much enjoy to be present on that occasion business is so much needing attention at this time seems more to ones duty to remain at home.

Thanking you all for the invitation, and with kind regards, Yours Very Truly.

W.H. Chrisman. Chrisman

CHRISMAN AND CHRISMAN ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW MAPLETON, IOWA

June 18th, 1934.

Dr Louis A. arren. Fort Wayne, Indiana.

my Dear Mr .arren.

Have been missing the LINCOLN LORE' as April 23 is the last number I have received, have been in Missouri for a month and wondered if they could have gone astray in the mean ti e.

Avenue Rosemont, Alexandria, Va. Is having a book published about the Hisrisons, and has quite a about the merrings and Lincoln relatives, that lived in mockingham County Virginia. In Harrison is the Gentleman that wrote the notes for the Memoirs of Lincoln written by Herring Chrisman that I had published and is very through in his work, Posibly you might be interested in seeing this book or the part that relates to mincoln.

2

CHRISMAN AND CHRISMAN ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW MAPLETON, IOWA

WILLIAM H. CHRISMAN ROSWELL H. CHRISMAN PHILIP C. COCKERILL

Is there enything to be paid for the LINCOLN LORE, How can you afford to put in so much work on this publication year after year and sent it out Free .? I remember with great pleasure the

pleasant time we had at the dedication of your Lincoln Room and "isplay, and the banquet when Your daughter took the part of little girl Lincoln called for on his way to ashington,.

with kind regards.

Yours_Very Truly.

W. H. Chinomon

H. Chrisman.

CORRESPONDED CHRISTIAN A 111 - 11 - 111 denni dyraja - 1. All addition to the state of the June 21, 1934 Consider of the Land State of the Control of the Co one of the community of the telegroup state in the the same that the same and the propression for the same Mr. William H. Chrisman Mapleton, Iowa My dear Mr. Chrisman: information about the book.

Thank you very much for calling to our attention the book which is being published by Mr. J. Buston Harrison. We will immediately write him for

Remembering you with much pleasure and also pleased to learn that you have not forgotten your Fort Wayne visit, I am

Very sincerely yours.

Director Lincoln Wational Life Foundation

LAW: EB

CHRISMAN AND CHRISMAN
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW
MAPLETON, IOWA

August 17th, 193 4.

WILLIAM H. CHRISMAN ROSWELL H. CHRISMAN PHILIP C. COCKERILL

Dr Louis A. Larren. Ft ayne Indiana.

Dear Dr .arren.

I received a copy of LITTLE KNOWN LINCOLN EPISODES. and also the July copies of LINCOLN LORE; for both of these I thank you very much.

Recently 1 have received the

prospectus of Mr J. Huston Harrison's book, which have been looking forward to with much interest, think it will have something worth while about the Hincolns and Herrings and cooperate what Herring hrisman has written about Bethsheba Herring.

Thanking you vanything that comes out about Lincoln, And with kind regards, Yours Very truly.

W. H. Chrisman.

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or Monte & verren. - t India World ME WETTED.

have received August 21, 1934 oy Lincoln nums other control of the bring o

to the Strin field Lincoln Storage til. John, Collaboration of the

com little ye leng from Bures of their St. W. M. Bullon St. Illenter Page goods

Mr. W. H. Chrisman

Mapleton, Town Hunder Terrest, work should be our user's or a car, says only to see it.

My dear Mr. Chrisman: you for the good thing-But othe Linn pur Ball on 2 te

Thank you very much for calling to my attention the new book by J. Huston Harrison. od Cha an

We have just subscribed for the book and look forward to its coming with interest.

Very sincerely yours,

LAW: LH

Director

CHRISMAN & CHRISMAN ATTORNEYS AT LAW MAPLETON, IOWA

FARM MANAGEMENT CITY PROPERTIES INSURANCE NOTARY PUBLIC

Jan 15th.1935.

Mr Louis A. Warren. Fort Wayne Indiana, My Dear Mr Warren.

WILLIAM H. CHRISMAN ROSWELL H. CHRISMAN

EDMUND B. VALENTINE FARM MANAGER

I have received the Abraham Lincoln CONCISE BIOGRAPHY The Boy Lincoln and H, s Mother shows a very sweet face of a lovely lad, also the 5 incoln Lore, s for December for which I thank you very much.

We are starting tomorrow on a trip to "lowida and regret that will not be at the Springfield celebration of the incoln Birthday this year,

Received a letter yesterday from Harry O Knerr of 444 N. Fulton St Allentown Pa, a great admirer of Lincoln.

The J. Huston Harrison, work should be out shortly & am waiting anxiously to see it.

Again thanking you for the good things that come from your Head warters, Yours Very Truly.

W.H.Chrisman.

Pioneer Burying Ground in Hardin

Elow how 5-20 -1930

(Courier-Journal)

An old burying ground always is interesting, and a few are aware that a pioneer burial plot lies just off the Dixie Highway in Hardin county. It is associated with the Lincoln family, and some of that name are interred there.

The historic old cemetery is located in the Vine Grove vicinity about two miles off the Dixie Highway. The burying ground adjoined the first Mill Creek Baptist church, which was the second religious edifice erected in Hardin county, built soon after Kentucky was admitted to Statehood. The burial plot includes the Lincoln lot in which Bethsheba Lincoln and two of her daughters are buried. The ruins of the foundation of the old Mill Creek church are yet visible in the ancient cemetery, which long has been neglected and presents a very dilapidated appearance.

Although in close proximity to a modern highway, the long-abandoned cemetery is reached with some difficulty except in good weather, as about a mile of the journey must be made on foot. Made easier of access, there hardly is a doubt but that many tourists on their way to the Lincoln shrine would stop to visit the historic burying ground associated with that pioneer Kentucky family.

There is something about an ancient cemetery that seems to appeal to the average tourist, and many travelers stop to inspect the plots and read the inscriptions on the headstone. For some years it has been the custom in various parts of the State to make the old burying grounds more attractive by giving them some care. In some cases patriotic societies have become interested in such a movement.

Tampa, Florida,
June 1, 1931.

Dr Louis A. Warren,
Fort Wayne, Ind.

Dear Sir: -

In reference to the name of the paper and the date of the publication of the article I mailed you, I have figured out the following:-

You will note in reading the article, the date given of the death of Lucy Potter was the year of 1875. Farther on in the article, the writer states, "To Ellen Campbell were born five children of whom Lucy, who died less than two years ago, was the youngest." That, it seems to me, would place the date the article was written as 1876-7.

On the reverse side of the clipping, lifted from the Scrapbook, I find river news given of boats leaving Cincinnatti for points down the Ohio. Also an item of news "Condition of Louisiana - Washington (Jan 14) Cor. Cincinnatti Gazette. - No year given. I conclude from this, the paper was the Cincinnatti Gazette, issue of Jan. 14, or a little later, 1876-7.

Hoping the above will be of some aid in locating the matter, I remain,

Yours respectfully,

mrs, Jennie Schooly Formann

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S ANCESTRY.

H. Gideon Welles contributes to the January number of Galaxy an article on the administration of Abraham Lincoln, which contains some interesting and hitherto unpublished information about Lincoln's ancestry. This was a subject of which Lincoln confessed his own igno rance. In 1875 there died in Bellefonte, Pa., a Mrs Lucy Potter, who was a great - aunt of president Lincoln. Her father William Winters, was born in 1728 and died in 1794. He emigrated from Berks County, Pa., to Northumberland, now Lycoming County, in 1728. He had by two wives nineteen children, and there was an interval of forty-two years between the birth of the oldest and that of the youngest. His first wife whom he married in 1747in the province of Virginia, was Ann Boone, a sister of Col. Daniel Boone, the famous Kentucky pioneer. By her he had four sons and seven daughters. The eldest daughter, Hannah, mar ried Abraham Lincoln, grandfather of the President, in Rockingham Co., Va. He emigrated to Kentucky, from which state he made a visit to his father-in-law, John Winters. Not long afterward Lincoln was killed by the Indians, leaving a son six years old, who became the father of the President. Mr William Winters married his second wife, Ellen Campbell, in in 1784 and from this union were born three sons and five daughters, of whom Lucy, who died less than two years ago, was the youngest, - After the death of William Winters his widow was licensed to keep a "house entertainment" where Williamsport now is. There she lived and reared her own large family and several step-children. Her daughters seem to have been very fortunate in their marriages. The husbands of two of them became Justices of Supreme Court of the state, and Lucy, the youngest, was the wife of W. W. Potter, who died while a member of Congress in 1838. She survived him thirty-seven years, continuing a widow. What is new in these facts is the connection of the Winters family with the Lincolns, which was not known to the President. Mr Welles says that he has no doubt of the authenticity of the relation, and that the President's ancestry in this county, paternal and maternal - Lincoln, Boone and Winters, - is now traced to the county of Berks, in Pennsylvania.

about for 14, 1876

This need not be not to

Tulsa, OKIA. Sept. 4.190%.

Dr. Louis A. Warren, Fort Wayne. Ind. Jear sir-

I was very much interested in an article appearing in our morning paper regarding the lineage of Lincoln in connection with the statue you are soon to dedicate in your city.

for some time I have made a study of the parentage of Lincoln with the hopes of finding out more about his grandmother Bathsheba Herring but have never found anything aside from the mere mention that she was the daughter of one Leonard Herring of Rockingham Co. whe is supposed to have been born in Berk's Co. ra.

I am the Great-grandaughter of one John Herring also born in ra. and naturally am very anxious to know if there is any connection

in these Herring families.

I note by this article that you have unearthed some new evidence regarding Lincoln's family and should you have any information regarding the Herring line I should greatly appreciate any information that you can give me, or tell me where I can get the information.

Dr. William Barton has given a very complete outline of the Lincoln and Hanks families in his book "The Paternity of Lincoln" With the proof of the marriage of Nancy Hanks and Phos. Lincoln the doubt of which saddened Lincoln's life.

Also in "Your Family Pree" written by the late David Starr Jordon among the outlines of prominent men the lincoln outline gives the Evans family back to Henry the I king of France.

Sarah Evans married the first John Hank or Hanks of Whitemarsh,

Wishing you the best of success in your work and hoping that I may hear from you I am

Yours very truly,

Mrs Fred M. Johnson

the 2 resources you are easy that the ceptember 6, 1933 000000

OR ADDRESS AND AREA PARTY NAME OF STREET PARTY.

SENS Francis Age - Sense Staffelle

where age, see the convert of the rate and ars. Fred a. Johnson filsa, Oklahoma

at determine Linewise, where of present Linewise by

Dear Lottles Fallen b

PERSONAL APPROXIMENTS

Dear Mrs. Johnson:

Difference gave taken your houses without him, between your recommendation You would be pleased I am sure to get in touch with w. H. Grisman, 2 Mapleton, Iowa who has written a book on the Lincoln-Herring contacts. la de la companya de

Thank you for your inforto device district mation concerning these families. planter Aireign Disputs Lart from these for an armen't six

Sincerely.

terms track, waxes the later personnel in terms of contracts to a sense of 1985 are party and the Lincoln Historical Research Foundation constant remaind the procedurally and the position decides THE RAY DECEMBER 10 MARKOTA

DOTE THAT DESIGNATION

print for derived Ligarity, Steamer, and Contracted

wife and feeling by Loyse

Cox's Creek, My. --- Sept. 22,1933.

Dear Brother Warren:

historian as yet has definitely located the maiden name of Bathsheba Lincoln, widow of pioneer Lincoln?

It appears to me that Barten was working on that some years ago, and he (Barton) at that time had me to find the name "Lincoln Gum" (Abraham Lincoln Gum), a sen of eld Jacob Gum, that old Jacob named this son "Lincoln", after pioneer Abraham Lincoln, and that Abraham Lincoln get this boy named after him, occause he (Lincoln) and Jacob Gum were brothers—in—law.

Have you a photo of the old home up in Virginia where Abraham Lincoln departed from when he made removal down to the "800 acres" upon upper Greene River?

It appeared to my mind fixed that Bathsheba Gum married to Abraham Lincoln, pieneer, in that county in Va. which pieneer Abraham Lincoln left from when he brought his wife and family to "Upper Grrene River" on the "800 acre" tract which was later patented to Mortica Lincoln in ((about)) 1802 or thereabouts.

Howeever, if this land "800 Acres" was not patented in Mortin Lincoln and conveyed by him to purchaser.

It does seem strange, that no marriage license in Va. can be found for Abraham Bincoln, pioneer, and "Bathsheba".

very Truly Yours. L.S. Serve

Gr. Louis & Rapvect.

York Kagana

S THE CANADA

September 266 1933

Mr. L. S. Pence Cox's Creek, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Pence: done of Mills The enclosed copy of Lincoln Lore, I think, will LAYER TO DO D give you about all we know with reference to Lincoln's grandmother, the wife of the pioneer Abraham Lincoln. As you see, we know very little. It appears to me that the key word in our entire problem is the name Josiah. It is not a Lincoln name but evidently a name taken from Abraham Lincoln's wife's family. STATE STATE OF THE tires uses ber.

I never heard of the Gum relationship or of any of the Lincolns living near the Gums on Knob Creek in Kentucky. taitin' olange demploy

Dr. Barton very stoutly denied that there was more br. Barton very stoutly denied that there was more than one marriage and concludes that this marriage was the DESCRIPTION FOR

I am advised that the old farm which Abraham Linco left in the Shenendosh Valley, Virginia at the time of his removal contained a large cabin but the brick building now I am advised that the old farm which Abraham Lincoln occupying the site was put up many years after by his brother BAA RC - works

The site which they settled on coming to Kentucky on Green River is now in Casey County, I understand.

Anything you may contribute about the grandmother of Abraham Lincoln will be very much appreciated by all Lincoln students. Got on a superior of the state of the s Tost Spenisy Libertz, Sylvania Lyd Grandyn tan Sived and

Very sincerely yours; sender and a test but be a last, waster, world

7-me 6 - 5 to 3000, 21 35.

Francy are purely in the project and the three Director LAW: LH Lincoln Historical Research Foundation Eng. 1 - Free Egunera and administration to the com-The old sent to the sent to th Dr. Louis A. Warren, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Dear Doctor:-

On page 16, your History of Lincoln, you are not certain as to the grave of Bersheba Lincoln in the Brumfield lot in the old Cemetery of the Regular Baptist Church of Mill Creek. When a boy up to manhood, we lived a neighbor to Mrs. Lucretia Austin, who was (according to tradition) the eldest daughter of Nancy Ann Lincoln and Wm. Brumfield. Mrs. Austin was very sore at her neighbors on account of their ill treatment of her because she was a first cousin of Abe Lincoln. She was a woman of good sense and resented that treatment, until she only neighbored with her four married daughters who lived near her.

Some few years before we moved into that part of the county Mrs. Austin's oldest daughter, Nancy Harbold, lost her husband and with her four small children moved back to her mother's home. My mother helped Nancy nurse Mrs. Austin through a sharp short spell of sickness and after that Mrs. Austin was a friendly neighbor. Mrs. Austin asked my mother to let Nancy work up her wool crop, as she could handle it from the sheep's back until it came out of the loom, and for some years Nancy did work up the wool; come Monday morning and leave Saturday evening, to be with her children on Sundays. Each night after supper Miss Nancy brought forth her stone pipe and after some few heavy puffs she was ready to talk and did tell many things that had happened in the north end of Hardin County before we had moved there. She did tell my mother in my presence that her Grandpa, Grandma, Aunt Mollie and Granny Lincoln were buried as named in the old cemetery of the First Baptist Church of Mill Creek about one mile west of her mother's house. That Granny Lincoln, Grandma and Grandpa had lived and died at that same house. I heard Mrs. Austin tell my father and mother that her father, mother, Mollie and granny were buried in the order named in that old cemetery.

I was nearly grown and reading history before I knew that Mrs. Lincoln had any other name except "Granny", as all the old people in that section spoke of her as "Granny Lincoln". Then history said her name was Bathsheba until Dr. Louis A. Warren found her name written by herself and recorded as Bersheba. From seven to twenty years old our neighbors on the south south east and east, and one family on the farm, were daughters of Lucretia Austin and granddaughters of Nancy Ann Lincoln Brumfield and we gathered quite a lot of Lincoln history and traditions. Mrs. Lucretia Austin was about seven years older than President Lincoln and I never heard her call him at any time by any other name than "Little Abe" and she spoke of her grandfather as Grandpa Abe.

G.E. Moulentry





HARRY HERRING
LICENSED REAL ESTATE BROKER
LEASES...INVESTMENTS

REALTOR.

*** Food Broadway

TELEPHONE STATE

Long Beach, Calif.

Write hun about Herrung faintly in Benn. Mr. Harry Herring 2615 E. Ocean Ave. Long Beach, California

My dear Mr. Herring:

Rack at my desk again after a two months absence due to my speaking itinerary in the West I am trying to check up on some of the contacts made and I find your card with the notation that I should send you the name of the gentleman who has done some work on the history of the Herring family.

"Memoirs of Lincoln" by Herring Chrispen was published by his son William Herring Chrisman in 1930.

You may reach William Herring Chrisman by addressing him at Mapleton, Iowa.

I am also taking occasion to enclose a photostat copy of a bulletin I published some years ago in which I tried to entangle the mystery of the Herring ancestry of Abraham Lincoln. I trust you will be able to help us discover some Pennsylvania contacts between the Lincolns and Herrings and if we are able to do this we may prove. as I hope we may be able to do, that Abraham Lincoln the pioneer was married but once and that his first wife was a Herring. This fact has never been proven satisfactorily to Lincoln students.

You will also find enclosed the copy of Lincoln Lore giving the Lincoln ancestral line, which may be of interest to you.

Mr. Harry Herring -2- March 21, 1935 the same of the sa The state of the s A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR Please feel that we are greatly interested in trying to solve once and for all the question of Lincoln's maternal grandmother and if you have Pennsylvania records on the Herrings, it seems to me you are in a good position to help us. If you care for documents on the Herring family in Virginia, I have a great many of those and would be pleased to cooperate with you in any way possible. Very truly yours, the same against the same of the Director LAW: LH Encs. THE PERSON

where worter I periode I Theme True proportion Eg person f. Theresh and delle there the this charge facione the men And the first of the second Mr Herrison was a dehout describe 3 mouth person at since me hours was the limit we the spin one diversity of the grant wind delice in and ourse white buneary and was tenouse as a fact court copy they the see for the process Morell to Mio, de les que mue tris tigle and attent west out No doubt about where from time is concerc as none there some the insuction charges and they seems any mile Many Harback tothe week wer History many times - Many Such The Market State of

I. John J. French, of Route #4, Vine Grove, Ky., being in the '73rdyear of my life make this statement.

In August 1879 I married Elizabeth Frances Harrison the 2nd daughter of Abner and Susan Harrison and two weeks later we, with nineteen other persons, moved to South East Missouri. We remained there until the Fall of 1880 and on the account of so much Swamp fever we came back to Kentucky; my wife and infant son both being ill of Swamp fever, from which she never recovered, and died in August 1881. About two weeks before my wife's death her mother, Susan Harrison, came from South East Mo., to be with her, and at her death selected the place for her interment. which was by the side of her Great Great Grandmother Bersheba Lincoln in the Lincoln lot in the Old First Mill Greek Baptist Church Cemetery.

My wife's mother, Mrs. Susan Harrison, was a grand daughter of Nancy Lincoln Brumfield, making her a great grand daughter of Bersheba Lincoln, and she knew where each member of her family was buried in the Lincoln lot at this Old Cemetery and had no trouble in locating the proper place for my wife's last resting place. Before the death of my wife and before the arrival of her mother she requested me, should her mother not arrive until after her death, that she be buried with her own people in the Lincoln lot in the Old First Mill Creek Baptist huxy French Church Cemetery.

Willness

Subscribed and sworn to before me by John J.French of R.F.D. # 4 Vine Grove, Hentucky., This 12th day of May 1931

> Notary Public, Hardin County, Ky. My commission expires Jery 5, 1032

or a str. Dunn Simi Your labour of tury theh wire more coen of " Line it Himmen" oem bullevik tekingud. Homorop. the cultured in the transport Lines with the contract of to out of sith we surroughts we to seem. I should the you, and to many this is you have rue'n ar re a range on resable intermedia ntions the Att of Chicago Line of all and gra may use truling of proceding, wonders but a serve nul peuple l'hive vieton' eman con en la grand de corremandate. I have the or her September 9,1937 remation volume y desire wind yout income of and like to have. The sectile the second Littleth iculm Christa (1887) bereta da to the state of the state of the Mr. G. E. McMurtry Vine Grove, Kentucky general Land Mark My dear Mr. McMurtry: Thank you very much for your letter and also the attached affidavit of John J. French. San Company of the Co I am still very anxious to learn, however, what Bersheba Lincoln's maiden name was. John Nall says it was Shipley, while the people in Rockingham County, Virginia claim that it was Herring. Is it not possible that some of the descendants through the Crunes of Branfield could discover just who Bersheba was before she married the Pioneer Abraham h of a no. Lincoln? The second secon any information you might gather on this subject would be timely, indeed. 8 Very traly yours. MAC, W * 1 Director

7581,8 red Jan

Mr. O. E. Mellertry Tipe Grove, lenkedgy

My dear Mr. 'ed artry:

Thank you very much for our letter and else the

such to Minrol t maider name rue. John ell saje t re sale,, entit to partie in Recinchan County. Estata clantant t res forther. I the of posible first through the descent ants through the first and the first through the following through the first and the final state of the first and the first and the final state of the first and the first and the final state of the first and t

Any information you might ather on this color of the colo

ery bruly yours,

SE: 'AJ

neseer I

Gering, Nebr. July 21, 1938

Dear Sir:

Your letter of July 15th with announcement of "Lincoln Kinsmen" new bulletin enclosed. However, was omitted altho two enclosures were to be sent. I should like very much to have this if you have one to spare me. I have considerable information about the Elizabeth Lincoln line two of her grandchildren are living at Moccasin, Montana but are very old people. I have visited them and am in constant correspondence. I have two of her books. I also have pictures of the old home. I'll be glad to send any information you may desire. Kindly outline what you would like to have. Miss Bettie Chrisman, named for Elizabeth Lincoln Chrisman, and her brother Joe Andy Chrisman live at Moccasin, Mont. Their father refused to recognize kinship with Lincoln in grave.

There are a number of mistakes in the Memotr's of Lincoln by Herring Chrisman, but he wrote in good faith. I presume you hav copy of the deed signed by Abrhm. Lincoln and Batsab Lincoln deeding Rockingham Co. Va.land away when they went to Ky. Geo. Chrisman is one of witnesses.

Stelle Mr. Direc Lif

Fort Wayne, Indiana

Mr. Louis A.Warren
Director Lincoln National
Life Foundation

DDRESS

Miss Estelle Chrisman Laughlin Gering, Nebraska

The state of the s

E. M. E. Smy

Dear Miss Laughlin:

مم م

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your card of July 21 to Dr. Warren, who is absent from Fort Wayne for the next two weeks. I am sure he will be very much interested in reading your card.

It may be possible that the bulletin which was mentioned as being enclosed in Dr. Warren's letter of July 15 was sent under separate cover, and, if this is the case, I trust that you have received it by this time.

Yours very truly,

MAC: NB Librarian N. A. Cook

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Hoself and a

MAC: WB

Table year to miss his on Wilderlin young in

· Elmile

Miss Estelle Chrisman Laughlin
Gering, Nebraska

My dear Madam:

Your note brought with it some very interesting information and I am greatly in hopes you will be able to clear up for us one problem which has confronted bincoln genealogists all these years. The question is, who was Bathsheba Herring and is there any document anywhere that will allow us to prove conclusively who her parents were?

I am quite familiar with Mr. Chrisman's work and agree with you that there are several very serious mistakes in his deductions.

It appears to me that it would be very worth while to make record of anything that is available about Elizabeth Lincoln, a sister of Abraham Lincoln's own grandfather, and if it would not be too much trouble I wish you might give me the names of India direction. The only fact we have about her is that she married Joseph Chrisman, son of John and Anne Harrison Chrisman and that she lies buried at Cooks Creek.

There is a record of but one child, a son, John or Joseph, who had one daughter, Mary, who in 1915 was living in Bourse. Montana.

Thank you very much for any information you may be able to give us.

Very truly yours.

LAW: EB

Director

HAZEL B. WILLIAMS

MARY E. THORNBROUGH SUPERVISOR OF BUSINESS AND FINANCE

THE KEARNY COUNTY BOARD OF SOCIAL WELFARE LAKIN, KANSAS

County Welfare Board J. R. HALE, DEERFIELD P. C. KIISTNER, ULYSSES R. E. MENN, LAKIN

Feb. 27, 1940.

Dr. Louis A. Warren, Lincoln National Life Foundation, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Dear Dr. Warren:

In looking over some of the back issues of The Lincoln Kinsman, I find in the September, 1938 number that you are appealing for information about the Herring line.

Of course I have nothing to add to your present data, but have remembered about a little book given me by a neighbor before she died. It is compiled and published by Harry M. Strickler, of Luray, Va., and entitled "Tenth Legion Tithables".

I wonder if you have this booklet; since it gives names of 5 Herring tithables at that period of 1792, and as it is his home locality, I am wondering if Mr. Strickler may have considerable data not printed in this book. He printed this in 1930. He states that the "Herrings still live between Dayton and Bridgewater on west fork of Cooks Creek. I think this is a very old homestead. Here we have Abigail Herring. I think it was an Abigail Herring that married Abraham Lincoln and became the grandmother of the President. I noticed that this name was spelled on an old tombstone in Harrisonburg, Herron. "

I am particularly interested in the map he has bound into the back of the book; it shows the site of the Lincoln home on Linville Creek and also locates a point as site where "Pres. Lincoln's father was born about 177- (this is blotted)"

If it should so happen that you do not have the booklet; I would be glad to loan mine for your survey; however, I think it likely that Mr. Strickler may still be pursuing his genealogical profession at Luray, Va. He was of the same family line as my neighbor friend.

Trusting you may have success in your efforts to establish this line, I am,

Very sincerely,

(Mrs.) Mary E. Thornbrough

February 29, 1940 Hrs. Hary E. Thornbrough Board of Social Welfare Kearny County Lakin, Kansas Dear Mrs. Thornbrough: I wish to sincerely thank you for your letter of February 27 to Dr. Warren, who is now absent from Fort Wayne on an annual speaking itinerary. We do not have in our possession a volume compiled by Harry M. Strickler entitled "Tenth Legion Tithables." I will be very happy to place your letter before Dr. Warren when he returns to Fort Wayne. If he has not had the privilege of viewing a volume by Strickier I am sure that he will be very happy to get in touch with you and will appreciate your courtesy of a loan of your copy. Yours very truly, Librarian MAC: TES M. A. Cook

I ferrinae for the property March 11, 1940 FORT TARREST TOWNS COLUMN TO PROPERTY The country of the formation and there is not a some Sullivate " Director Street," when Alter to simple on the grown of Mrs. Mary E. Thornbrough Board of Social Welfare Kearny County Takin, Kansas er i propinsi ka Dear Madam: North and the madam: North and the management of the m Thank you for calling to our attention the little book written by Mr. Strickler entitled "Tenth Logion Tithables." We do have three books by Mr. Strickler but none of this title. If you would care to for-CONTRACTOR IN ATTO ward it for our observation, we would be pleased indeed and if any copies are available we will write to Mr. Strickler, if the copy seems to be of interest. Thank you very much for the information which your letter contains. Very truly yours, - Dome Branche of Liberty Circuit & Control of the Street of the Entrol of the The server control of the later of our control of the particle rate of the first fields and the speciment of the speciment of the second speci COURT TENDE the Alexander referred to the me worth of

Harrisonburg Va. Route 4-B222 November 8, 1940

Dr. Louis A. Warren, Fort Wayne Indiana Dear Dr. Warren:

I recently received through the bublishers a copy of your Eulletin " Lincoln Kinsman" wherein you give my affidavit as to my personal knowledge of the maiden name of Bathsheba the grandmother of the President.

In this communication I gave what I believe to be almost absolute proof of Herring being the maiden name of the presidents grandmother and this the recorded fact that in a list of upwards of three thousand marriage licenses issued between 1778 and 1825 there does not occur even one womans given name of Eathsheba except, the Bathsheba that married Abraham Lincoln in 1770 at which time the records indicate he was only 26 years old. and this Bathsheba was the mother of all his children

Your correspondent says Abraham married Mary Shipley and the other two you list in the bulletin says Ann Boone the other claimant records Hanniah or Elizabeth Winters as neither of these name a Bathsheba and as Bathsheba is the proven given name of Abrahams wife can there be any further doubt that she was Bathsheba Herring.? please let me have your definite opinion of this in view of the above and other confirmatory evidence.

Yours truly, Halles

The Mafor Chrisman referred to was an unch of my wife.

December 3, 1940

Mr. W. S. Fallis Route No. 4-D222 Harrisenburg, Va.

My dear Mr. Fallis:

I expect the confusion about the maternity of the five Lincoln children born in the Shenandoah Valley to Abraham Lincoln and his wife has been largely due to the testimony of one of the grandchildren of Mancy Lincoln or Ann, who married William Brumfield. He lived in the very community where Bathsheba died, yet the testimony given with reference to his grandmother makes no statement whatever with reference to the Herring family.

Another testimonial which did very muck to destroy the traditional evidence with respect to Abraham Lincoln, the Pieneer's wife, were the details of the reminiscences which did not seem to jibe with facts. For instance, in all of the early traditions Bersheba was called the daughter of Leonard Herring. Soon it was pointed out to the members of the Herring family that if that were true, Bersheba would have been about eight years old and possibly termines.

When it was pointed out that Leonard Herring was married but ten years before Abraham Lincoln was married and could not have had a daughter eligible for marriage by 1770 then the tradition immediately changed and made Bersheba a sister of Leonard instead of a daughter. You can see how this confused Lincoln historians, and the further story with reference to the Lincoln family living in a lower social strata than the Herrings also made people wonder just how much truth there was in the tradition.

We should all like to see very much some official document that would settle forever the question of Bersheba's parentage and also some official document that would establish she was the first and only wife of Abraham Lincoln. While I feel quite sure myself that Bersheba was a member of the Herring family, there are no documents which prove it other than tradition and booklore, and there are no documents which prove conclusively that she was the only wife of Pioneer Lincoln. My thought is that some day with proper search there may be found in Augusta or Rockingham County some reference to Bersheba Lincoln early enough to indicate just when she did become the Pioneer's wife.

I trust that if you have time or any of your associates have time you will not fail to exhaust all available records in Harrisonburg in order that we may have documentary proof about the maternity of Abraham Linaoln.

Very truly yours,

March 16, 1942

Mrs. Ethel West Weaver
Thomas Jefferson High School
Sen Antohio, Texas

My dear Madam:

While visiting at the Thomas Jefferson High School in San Antonio in January I had the pleasure of meeting you after the address before the students and you advised me about your connection with the Herring family of Rockingham County, Virginia.

Just back at my desk after several weeks absence I find a notation that I am to send you a little bulletin on the Herring family of Virginia, which you will please find attached.

Very truly yours,

LAW: EB

Director

THE DAILY REPUBLICAN - TIMES

ESTABLISHED 1844)

LA SALLE COUNTY'S MOST COMPLETE NEWSPAPER

OTTAWA, ILLINOIS

MEMBER AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS
MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

PUBLISHED BY
THE REPUBLICAN-TIMES PRINTING COMPANY

1

May 15 1945

Dr. Louis A. Warren
Lincoln National Life Foundation
Fort Wayne Indiana
Dear Dr. Warren:

At the request of Thad Davison of Earlville I am trying to trace down the Lincoln family with tree back to the grandfather of Abraham Lincoln. On the face of it it seems to be a rather hopeless task with little to go on.

The facts are these: Josiah Davision was a Virginian one of the as colonial sheriffs under the King of England prior to the outbreak of the Carles Davision was a Virginian

Then he joined the patriot forces in virginia serving about two years.

He reared a family of six children in old Viginia and after the death of his wife split his 1800 acres of land among them each getting 300 acres and a his brick house. Among these six children was Jesse avidson who died young leaving a son Alexander Herron Davision born March 4 1817. He died in October 1921. This man married late in life and hads two sons were born to him Thad and Jesse who now live at arlville, Illinois.

May 24, 1945 Mr. C. C. Tisler Ottawa, Illinois My dear Mr. Tisler: For a great many years I have been trying to solve the problem of the paternal grandmother of Abraham Lincoln and while there is a perfundames of evidence which points to the Bersheba Lincoln who married grandfather Abraham Lincoln as having been a member of the Herring family as yet we have been unable to establish through any authorized record the proof we so much desire. You will observe by the attached bulletin that Josiah Davidson has been mentioned as the father of Bersheba and I hope some day we may be able to find out the maiden name of his wife . We would welcome any information not already available in our files which would help to throw light on this question. Very truly yours, Director LAW:WM

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THE DAILY REPUBLICAN - TIMES

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PUBLISHED BY
THE REPUBLICAN-TIMES PRINTING COMPANY

1

May 28 1945

Dr. Louis A. Warren

Lincoln National Life Foundation

Fort "ayne Ind.

Dear Mr. Warren :

Thank you for the information on the Lincoln ancestry which I like so many others am trying to clear up with out much success.

Here are some facts that may or may not be known to you but may help to clear this mystery of who Abraham's Lincoln grandmother was:

The Davidson brothers. Thad and Jesse are residents of LaSalle county living about 20 miles north of here near the little village of Earlville. Both are well along in years.

They are the sons of Alexander Herron Davisson who was born in Virginia March 4 1817 and died in LaSalle county October 31 1921 at the age of 104 years. He was a resident of Virginia until the Civil war broke out when he packed up and came to Illinois because of his string union sentiment.

LINEGIN LORE

Bulletin of the Lincoln National Life Foundation - - - - Dr. Louis A. Warren, Editor Published each week by The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Number 943

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

May 5, 1947

LINCOLN'S PATERNAL GRANDPARENTS, KENTUCKY PIONEERS

The paternal grandparents of Abraham Lincoln and the great grandfather of R. C. Ballard Thurston, who recently passed away at Louisville, Kentucky, were pioneer contemporaries in Jefferson County, Kentucky, and both were killed by the Indians within two years of each other. The decease of Mr. Thurston and the fact that so many of the events associated with Lincoln's paternal grandparents happened in the month of May invites the review of a few pioneer Lincoln episodes at this time.

Mr. Thurston for many years was president of the Filson Club and for a long period an outstanding patron of Kentucky history. His pioneer kinsman, Bland W. Ballard, might be called the earliest recorder of an historical episode connected with the Lincoln family in Kentucky. His observation was submitted to Col. R. T. Durrett and preserved in the colonel's papers now in the Durrett Collection at Chicago University Library. The item in question referred to a massacre which took place at Hughes' Station a few miles east of Louisville and under a crude pencil sketch of the station or fort is this notation:

"Bland W. Ballard states that the station was erected by Morgan Hughes in 1780; that it stood on Long Run in Jefferson County not far from the Baptist Meeting House; that it consisted of eight cabins and four block houses at the corners and that it was a weak fort poorly built. In 1786 a man was killed here by an Indian, while he was coming to the station from his land on Long Run, where he had been putting in a crop. His family resided in the station and soon after his death the widow and children moved to Washington County."

A footnote has been appended to this notation in the handwriting of Col. Durrett and apparently made at a much later date than the body of the document: "Query, might not this man thus killed have been Abraham Lincoln, the grandfather of the President?"

Several duly authorized public records have been discovered which contribute to the support of Col. Durrett's supposition that the man killed on Long Run at Hughes' Station was the grandfather of the President.

It is a well known fact that Lincoln's paternal grand-father, for whom he was named, entered a four hundred acre tract of land near Hughes' Station in Kentucky on March 4, 1780. He migrated to Kentucky about 1782 and on May 17, 1785, William May, surveyor of Jefferson County, surveyed this tract, which he identified as situated on "the Fork of Floyd's Fork now called Long Run." Abraham Lincoln, the pioneer, himself served as "marker" for the surveyor and his second son, Josiah, and his cousin, Hananiah, are named as "chain carriers." This entry in the surveyor's office at Louisville clearly identifies Lincoln with the tract of land on Long Run adjacent to Hughes' Station, one year before the massacre in the same fatal month of May.

Mordecai Lincoln, oldest son of the pioneer Lincoln, set forth in a bill against John Reed's heirs that, "Abraham Lincoln departed this life in May, 1786, without will," which forever establishes the date of the pioneer's death.

When Abraham Lincoln, the Whig Congressman from Illinois, was in Washington, he corresponded with relatives about his ancestry; he commented on his grandfather having been killed by the Indians in Kentucky. Later he wrote to another relative about the massacre in these words:

"The story of his (grandfather Abraham Lincoln) death by the Indians, and of Uncle Mordecai, then fourteen years old, killing one of the Indians, is the legend more strongly than all others imprinted upon my mind and memory."

The massacre was also mentioned in the autobiographical selections for campaign purposes in which Mr. Lincoln emphasized the grandfather "was killed by Indians, not in battle but by stealth when he was laboring to open a farm in the forest." The President usually placed the death of his grandfather "about the year 1784" but as we have observed from the testimony of Mordecai, who shot the Indian, it was in the month of May, 1786.

Some weeks after the massacre of Lincoln's grand-father, which apparently aroused the pioneers because of the sad fate of the widow with five small children and other community casualties, George Rogers Clark, another kinsman of Mr. Thurston, was encouraged to plan an expedition against the Wabash Indians. A subscription was circulated in the Floyd Fork community on which appear, among others, both the names of the Widow Lincoln and Bland Ballard, great grandfather of Rogers Clark Thurston Ballard.

The proposal on the subscription list is as follows: "We, the undersigned subscribers, being fully sworn to appraise the following articles for the use of the expedition against the Wabash Indians, commanded by General Clark for Capt. George Pomeroy's Company. September the 8th, 1786."

Then follows 36 items and among them:

"A gun, the property of Widow Lincoln—8. 0. 0."

"A pack saddle, the property of Bland Ballard—0.9.0."

One of the most recent unpublished discoveries by the editor of Lincoln Lore relating to Lincoln's grandparents is a manuscript which proves that the Widow Lincoln soon removed her family to Washington County as the Bland W. Ballard statement indicates. The agreement signed by Jeremiah York also proves the widow had taken active steps to set about supporting her family of five children. The covenant and its endorsements which appear in the papers of the suit brought by the widow against York for "Covenant Broken" follows.

Lincoln vs. York Land Covenant Broken

Feb. 1, 1788.

I promise or cause to be done for Barshe (usually spelled Bersheba) Lincoln the clearing of two acres of land smack smothe for four pounds the work is to be done this spring and six acres to be cleared for the plow for six pounds.

Test James Cullough Jeremiah York

Suit brought against him for covenant broken and recovery of 20 pounds asked.

Endorsement May 20, 1788

Not executed by order of Plaintiff.

Thomas Bridges
August, 1788

We are now able to move back the arrival of widow Bersheba Lincoln and her five orphan children in Washington County, Kentucky, as early as February 1, 1788. This is eight months before the appraisal of the pioneer's estate was ordered on October 14, 1788. The document and its endorsement is of further interest in that it reveals the Widow Lincoln did not press her charges against York, which might imply at least that he had made some further agreement to carry out his contract.

Mr. Lincoln

How many quiz experts could give the maiden name of Abraham Lincoln's maternal grandmother? It was Bathsheba Herring. No quiz expert in the world, however, could give the name of Lincoln's maternal grandfather. Who he was is not known to this day.

These and a multitude of other odd and colorful facts about Lincoln and the Civil War were compiled by Richard Hanser in his research for the script of "Meet Mr. Lincoln" which NBC-TV network is presenting Feb. 11, in connection with the 150th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth. Here is a grab-bag of curiosa for Civil War buffs:

All actors who impersonate Lincoln on stage and screen deliver their lines in a rich, deep baritone. Lincoln had a high, thin voice.

When the Civil War broke out, 22 per cent of all Army officers went over to the Confederacy. But only 26 enlisted men left the Stars and Stripes.

ONE OF THE MOST beautiful letters ever written in the English language is Lincoln's letter of condolence to Mrs. Lydia Bixby on the loss of her five sons in battle. It turned out that Lincoln had been misled by the War Department. Mrs. Bixby lost only two sons. Two of the other sons deserted, and the fifth survived also.

LINCOLN'S SCRUPULOUS honesty has become legendary, but he was once accused by a newspaper of padding his expense account as a Congressman.

WHEN NOMINATED for the Presidency, he was so little known in some areas that, the newspapers kept misspelling his name. They called him "Abram." Others printed phonetic pronunciations of his last name, so people would know how to say it.

NO OTHER PRESIDENT before "Ike" was so often referred to by a nickname—"Old Abe," "Honest Abe" and just plain "Abe." But nobody ever called Lincoln "Abe" to his face. His native dignity prevented any such familiarity, even from his closest friends. His wife called him "Mr. Lincoln."

A Story of the Life of **Abraham Lincoln**

(Written by Miss Ruby Lillian Crume, now deceased, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Crume, of Vine Grove.)

Among the pioneer women who came to Kentucky from Virginia was one destined to become the grandmother of one of the greatest men that Kentucky ever produced. 'That woman was Bersheba Lincoln, the grandmother of President Abraham Lincoln. From her he inherited many things that contributed to his greatness. She was noted for her native shrewdness, her keen intellect, her boundless courage, and degged perserverance.

Born in Virginia

Very little is known of her early life. She was born in Virginia in 1745. One tradition says that her maiden name was Herroit and that she was of French origin, and another says that it was Herrin. She evidently attended a colonial school as a child for she was able to write a fair hand as the marriage permit of her daughter, Nancy Ann, in 1801 bears her signature. (This permit is on file at the Washington County Courthouse). She married Capt. Abraham Lincoln in Rockingham County, Virginia, when she was about 24 years old. Her five children-Mordecai, Josiah, Thomas, Mary and Nancy Ann-were all born in that county.

In 1780 Capt. Lincoln, who had servtucky offered in payment for services to which he took his bride. in that war by Virginia.

Capt. Lincoln Killed by Indians

planting time, Capt. Lincoln was killed This was money that his mother had

in a surprise attack by Indians. He died without a will and as the olo English law was still in effect in America, the eldest son, Mordecai, by the law of primo-geniture, inherited all the land of the family. Thus, the mother with four children dependent upon her was left in a wild unsettled country with the meagre belongings of the average pioneer family. In a short time, she moved with her brood to Washington County. Little is known of her life there except that she kept the family together until most of them were mar-

Children Marry

The first to marry was Mordecai, the eldest son. He married Mary Mudd in 1798. The next to marry was Nancy Ann, the youngest child. She married William Brumfield in February, 1801. Josiah married "Caty" Barlow in the same year and month as Nancy. In August of the same year, Mary married Ralph Crume.

About this time Bersheba began to center her interest on the family of Nancy and William Brumfield, with whom she made her home. Mary's husband, Ralph Crume, was many years her senior, and had been married before. He had been a soldier of the Revolution and like her father had taken advantage of the Treasury Land Script ed under Gov. Patrick Henry on the offered by Virginia and had taken up Southern Trail during the Revolution, land in Central Kentucky. He had a took advantage of the Treasury Land comfortable home on a large farm near Script for land in the County of Ken- Hardinsburg, in Breckinridge County,

Thomas Lincoln Buys Hardin Land

Both Mordecai and Josiah had farms He migrated, with his family, to in Washington County. The former had Central Kentucky. Here he acquired inherited his farm from his father, over 5,000 acres of picked land in wide- the latter owed some on his, but was ly scattered parts of that section. The rapidly paying the debt. In 1803, home of the family was located at Thomas Lincoln bought 238 acres of Hughes' Station, on Long Run, in Jeff- land on Mill Creek in northern Hardin erson County. Here in 1786, during crop County. He paid £118 for this property.

saved for him when she had hired him out at a man's wage in Washington County, Shortly after Thomas bought this place, the Brumfields and Bersheba Lincoln moved to it.

In 1806, the Brumfields acquired a farm five miles north on Buffalo Run of Mill Creek. Here they built a large two-story log house with a large kitchen in the rear. Tradition says that Bersheba was the brains of the clan. She was endowed with a shrewd mind which made it possible for her to plan for the future. William Brumfield was rather indolent, but Bersheba pushed him along until they were one of the wealthiest families in the neighborhood. They owned a store, a blacksmith shop, and a stillhouse. Somehow or other she schemed and got the three-day elections held at their place.

Bersheba Died in 1833

"Granny" Lincoln, as she was called by the whole community after the coming of the Brumfield children, lived to a very ripe old age. She died in 1833, and was buried in the cemetery of the old pioneer Baptist Church of Mill Creek. At first her grave was marked with a large flat limestone rock turned on end with the letters "BL" carved near the top. Today the stone stands less than a foot high.

(The writer of this story was the great-great-granddaughter of William Crume, who was the son of Ralph Crume and his first wife, Polly Riggs.)

Illinois, Kentucky Governors To Be Here Next Week



This is a picture of the cemetery near Mill Creek on the Fort Knox reservation where Bersheba Lincoln, Abraham Lincoln's grandmother, is buried. What was left of the old marker is circled at lower right. The cemetery has since been cleaned up, and the State of Illinois has erected a new marker at Ber-

sheba Lincoln's grave to replace the old one which had been ravaged by time, weather and souvenir hunters. Other markers shown above are at the graves of other members of the family.

To Present Lincoln Marker

Governor William G. Stratton of Illinois and Governor Bert Combs of Kentucky will be here next Wednesday, May 18, to dedicate a new marker which has been crected at the grave of Bersheba Lincoln in a cemetery near Mill Creek on the Fort Knox reservation.

The State of Illinois has erected the granite marker. Governor Stratton will officially present the 5-foot-high stone to Governor Combs and the people of Kentucky from the people of Illinois.

The ceremony is scheduled for 2 p.in. Wednesday afternoon. The cemetery is located about five miles east of Rogersville, Turn east at Rogersville and follow the signs. The Army has cleaned up the cemetery, graveled the road and made parking space for the occasion.

A dinner will follow the cere- H. Townsend, history profession at mony at the Elizabethtown Country Club Wednesday evening at 7 o'clock. Both governors are scheduled to attend. Tickets, at \$2.50 each, may be obtained from John Behen at First Hardin National Bank, Mrs. Ernest Wright at the Brown-Pusey House, Mrs. Wilbur Terry at the free public library or from the Chamber of Commerce office before Saturday.

Speaker at the banquet will be Dr. R. Gerald McMurtry, formerly of Elizabethtown. He is a noted Lincoln authority and is presently director of the Lincoln National Life Foundation. He also is a member of the National Lincoln Sesquicentennial Commission. Dr. Mc-Murtry will review the lives of Captain Abraham Lincoln and hiswife Bersheba.

Others taking part in the program will be Chaplain Donald F. Carter of Fort Knox, Elizabethtown

the University of Kentucky: Dr. Rhea A. Taylor, executive director of the Kentucky Lincoln Sesquicentennial Commission.

The State of Illinois agreed to erect the new marker at the suggestion of the Hardin County Historical Society. The old marker had been chipped away by souvenir hunters and ravaged by time and weather.

Taking part in the afternoon program will be Dr. W. W. Slider of Elizabethtown, Maj. Gen. W. Paul Johnson, commanding general of the Armor Center; 158th Army Band, Glen D. Palmer, director of the Department of Conservation of Illinois; Governor Stratton, Governor Combs, Elizabethtown High School ensemble, Dr. Louis A. Warren, director emeritus of the side is a message explaining that Lincoln National Life Foundation and former pastor of the Christian church here, and W. Burton Lincoln's tomb in Springfield, Mayor Leonard T. Bean, William Cowley, president of the Hardin Illinois.

County Historical Society.

Bersheba Lincoln was the grandmother of Abraham Lincoln, 16th president of the United States. She was the wife of Captain Abraham Lincoln, who was killed by Indians and is buried in the Long Run Baptist Church Cemetery in Jefferson county. They lived on Mill Creek near where Bersheba is buried.

Inscribed on one side of the new marker are these words:

"Bersheba Lincoln whose grandson was the sixteenth President of the United States. Married Captain Abraham Lincoln in Virginia, accompanied him over the mountains to Kentucky, worked by his side to create a landed estate until he was killed by Indians in May, 1786."

On a bronze plaque on the other a stone set in the base of the marker is a piece from Abraham

The Courier-Journal May 18, 1960

Rites Today To Honor Lincoln Grandmother

Governors Combs of Kentucky and William G. Stratton of Illinois will take part today in a Fort Knox ceremony at 2 p.m. on Brooks Field honoring Bathsheba Lincoln, grandmother of Abraham Lincoln.

Stratton will present Kentucky with a monument containing a stone from the tomb of President Lincoln in Springfield, Ill. The monument will be placed at the grave of the grandmother in Lincoln Memorial Cemetery near Mill Creek on the Fort Knox reservation.

History Qulz—Do You

Remember?

Do you have a question for this column? Send it on a postcard, with your name and address, to History Quiz, Chicago Tribune, Chicago 11, Ill. If Ralph Newman, historian and Lincoln scholar, chooses your question for a future column, we'll pay you \$5.

BY RALPH G. NEWMAN

1. Where was the first highrise [skyscraper] building erect-

ed?—Mrs. Harold F. Niemann, Chicago. 2. Who was Bathsheba Her-



3. When and by whom was the first alarm clock made?—Miss Nell Clark, Dubuque, Ia.

4. What novel caused a governmental investigation of meatpacking houses?—Charles Kauzlarich, Chicago.

5. What early American patriot had a son who was officially designated as a traitor?—E. Duggan, Louisville, Ky.

[Answers in sec. 3, p. 45]

Ch', Tribune - 6-22-63

-Ralph Newman's History Quiz-

Do You Remember?

ANSWERS

[Questions on page 4]

1. The first building known as a skyscraper was a ten story structure erected by the Home Insurance Company of New York at the northeast corner of La Salle and Adams streets in Chicago. It was designed by Maj. William LeBaron Jenney and built in 1884-5. It was constructed of marble, flanked by four columns of polished granite supporting a marble balcony. Two stories were added later. A steel frame supported the entire weight of the walls.

2. When President Abraham Lincoln's paternal grandfather, whose name also was Abraham [1744-1786], sold his Virginia lands in 1780, his wife, Bersheba, signed the deed. President Lincoln's father, Thomas, was born the same year and died in 1851. Bersheba [or Bathsheba] is believed to have been a daughter of Leonard Herring and to have been her husband's second wife and the grandmother of President Lincoln.

3. The first alarm clock was made by Levi Hutchins of Concord, N. H., in 1787. It was 29 inches high and 14 inches wide and inclosed in a pine case with a mirror on the door. The alarm rang at a fixed time.

4. The publication, in 1906, of "The Jungle," a novel by Upton Sinclair, based on his observation of conditions in the Chicago stockyards, aroused nation-wide interest and caused President Theodore Roosevelt to institute an investigation. The result of this investigation was the passage of the meat inspection act and the pure food and drugs act. The book became a best seller in the United States and England and eventually was translated into 17 languages.

5. Benjamin Franklin [1706-1790], colonial and Revolutionary war statesman, had a son, William [1731-1813], presum-



The Home Insurance building with 11th and 12th stories added.

ably by his common-law wife, Deborah Read. The boy became his father's close companion. When Benjamin Franklin went to England as agent for Pennsylvania and New Jersey, William accompanied him and in London entered the Middle Temple. He was admitted to the bar. In 1763, he became governor of New Jersey. When the Revolutionary war broke out, William Franklin remained in New Jersey, collecting and transmitting information to England. In 1776, the Provincial Congress of New Jersey declared him "an enemy to the liberties of this country," and he was ordered arrested. He was later exchanged with the British and spent the rest of his life in England. After the war, he was partially reconciled [by letter] with his father. His son, William Temple Franklin, was secretary to his grandfather when Benjamin Franklin served as representative of the Continental Congress in Paris [1776-1781] and later edited his works.

June 25, 1968
P. 0. Box 78
Coatesville, Ind. 46121

111, larg

Lincoln National Life Foundation 1301 South Harrison Street Fort Wayne, Indiana 46801

Gentlemen:

Thank you very much for the Lincoln Kinsman sent to me by your office.

It certainly was an oversight on my part when I stated that the dollar was inclosed. I meant to inclose it, but my wife mailed it out before I got around to obtaining the Money Order.

May I say that I feel that if Bathsheba Herring was the sister of Jesse Herring, who was married in Pulaski County Kentucky 30 December 1818 by consent of Jane Herring for William Herring, deceased. He was married to a girl by the name of Rachel Clounch. Also Alexander Herrin married to Nancy Miser by consent of Isaac Herrin on 30 December 1818. William Herrin, married to Sally Evans 13 March 1805 by consent of Shadrack Herrin and John Evans. Also Isaac Herrin married to Hannah Collyer 29 Dec. 1810.

I was told that previous to that date I might find some marriage contracts in the Court house in Stanford, Kentucky; which is in Lincoln County. I intend to be in Stanford, Kentucky soon and intend to check the records there for the marriage contract of Bathsheba Herrin and Abraham Lincoln. Or at least Bathsheba,

I would like to establish the fact that William Herrin is the father of John Herrin who was married to Elizabeth Montgomery. John was born 9 April 1805 and Elizabeth was born 6 April 1813 according to the records in the old Bible belonging to John Herrin, my great-grandfather.

Yours respectfully,

Elston Herrin



David S. Keiser:- Happy New Year! The Keisers are well and happy....Norman and Peg Keiser spent Thanksgiving with us, and Christmas with Peg's family in Massachusetts. Last December 19, Norman's picture was printed in the Poughkeepsie Journal in connection with an article stating he is the supervisor of the newly created Poughkeepsie Street Academy, a state funded program to help school drop-outs and potential drop-outs with tutoring and other assistance. Thus Norman, after teaching ten years at Oakwood School, steps into a city job. The new program starts with about thirty students... Peg continues her hospital work as an occupational therapist. She, also, enjoys weaving on her new loom in their new apartment at 73 Carroll Street. I, David, recently had printed in the June 7th Bulletin Sunday Magazine AN OPEN LETTER TO CASSIUS CLAY. He never replied thereto. ..At a recent Lincoln - Civil War Society meeting, I introduced the speaker, Mr. Clifford Owsley of Arlington, Va., who spoke on Lincoln's religion.

Marjorie H. Keiser:- May the New Year of 1971 bring peace and health to you and the world. David and I spent Christmas week with Mel, Beth and Megan, their 2 1/2 year old bundle of joy, at their Greensboro, N.C. home on Dolly Madison Road, so named because Dolly was born thereon. They live just off the campus of Guilford College, where Beth teaches English. A Yuletide feature much enjoyed by Megan's four grandparents was the surprise visit of us five Keisers to a birthday party of Beth's father at Williamsburg, Virginia, where he and his wife were visiting. David and I also visited the Melbeths in N.C. last June. Mel is doing graduate study at Duke University, about fifty miles from Greensboro. He is not teaching this year. Mel and Beth have excellent slides of their summer trip - to Colorado to attend a Danforth conference and visits to Minnesota, New Mexico, and California to see (Beth's) relatives...Melvin had transferred his Germantown Meeting membership to Greenboro's Friendship Meeting, of which Mel is an Overseer.

David is now the only active Lincoln genealogist. He is having fun evaluating certain would-be ancestors of Abraham Lincoln and his mother, Nancy Hanks. The names I hear him mention oftenest (in his sleep) are a Lucy and a Bathsheba, with last names of Hanks and Herring. On 12-29-1970, he became the first-ever to find a documented Bathsheba Herring-(in an old will). D.S. Keiser has also found a new mother and a new father for Nancy Hanks, from the same data others have used. In 1969, he solved a 300 year old enigma, "Who were Lincoln's first American ancestors?". They were Lincoln's Pilgrim forbears, the three who sailed for Plymouth Rock from Armagh, Ireland, in 1624. The family-head, Rev. John Lyford, actually became a "historical figure of old New England", when he became the first ordained minister of Plymouth Colony, yet he was arrested and jailed by Captain Miles Standish. A decade ago, David found those Quaker ancestors for Lincoln that he so often wrote of having in Pennsylvania. They were the Flowers and the Barnards of Marcus Hook, Pa., circa 1700.

As I, Marjorie, send this New Year letter to families for whom I have baby-sat over the years, I have happy memories of their children, now grown. I still "sit", and enjoy the children as much as ever. I, too, like work at the Polls, on election days, Knitting is a hobby. I knitted a dress for Beth Keiser, one of our two lovely daughters-in-law, recently. I read mostly Pearl Buck's books. I love our twelve cats, six of which are kittens just about old enough for adoptions. If interested, phone 215 ME 5-1682.

We enjoy our three-month summers at our cabin at Camp Lenape at Tafton, Pa. 18464, in the Poconos. What pure joy and freedom I experience as I hike in God's Woods with the reality of His Presence, and a feeling of oneness with every living thing from the tiniest creature to the persons of the whole human family.

Three of the past four summers we have been besieged by the neighbors to rent our house to families moving into Elkins Park from foreign countries. We eventually complied. They were the Hieberts from Switzerland, the Whittams from England.

SCOTT, Jonathan - D. February 25, 1781

County: Duplin

Sons:

Daus:

Wit:

Sis: Mary Scott, Jenny Chesnutt, Jerusha Murphrey,

Peggy Ades, Ashe Scott

Exec: Mother (not named)

Wit: David James, Jacob Fryer, Winaford Fryer

SESSIONS, Richard - D. April 7, 1816

Wife: Esther Sessions

Joseph, Richard, Jesse, Philip (dec'd),

David, Boon, William, Uriah Sessions

Bathshaba Herring, Mary Dodd, Winifred Ses-

sions, Sarah Cromartie

Exec: Sons, William, Uriah Sessions, Peter Cromartie

James Williamson, Hiram Blackburn, Laban

Tatom, John Wright, Jr.

SHAW, Catherine - D. September 15, 1877 - P. May 12, 1897

Granddau: Martha Ann Stephens

Wit: - Anney Stephens, Daniel McKinnon

This first-ever documentation of a <u>Bathsheba Herring</u> will prove that Lincoln never had HERRING ancestry.

One must look for a new Bathsheba!

Found by D. S. Keiser 7733 Mill Road ELKINS PARK, Pa. 19117 1-8-1971

Too Many Bathshebas

These North Carolina Will-Abstraare lifted from a book thereon.

Dear Dr. McMurtry,

Thank you for reminding me, if someone had proved or disproved the illegitimacy myth, I "would have already heard about it." Yes, I've done just that. Have two versions - ten page version for some historical magazine, explaining how, why, and by whom, the myth started, why Dennis Hanks siad what he did, why Herndon printed it, etc. The other version is a three page one in which there is not any mention of Dennis Hanks or William Herndon, and instead of three ways of rigorously disproving it, there are but two.

I have been patiently working these past 25 years, and full time the past ten years, sol Lincoln mysteries, like the identies of his three unknown the through finding the very first documented Bathsheba Herring, I can 100 disprove that Lincoln's grandfa married a Herring. The Dearest there ever was to a Bathsheba Herring Lincoln was a Bath Sessions Herring, i. e. Some Herring relatives recalled an old BATHSHEBA HERRING. Whether she was Miss Bathsheba Herring or Mrs Bathsheba Herring made no difference. She never was a Miss Herring that married a Lincoln. Remember how the Chrismans and such always talked of the Bathsheba Herring in their family, never of a Bathsheba Herring Lincoln. I repeat, "they all" remebered the old (great aunt ?) Bathsheba Herring. I also have discovered the first ancestors of Fres. Lincoln to reach America - in 1624 from Armsgh, Ireland. He, a John Lyford, was an authentic historical character, mention in New England history books. His daughter (Martha) married Samuel Lincoln about 1649. Lyford graduated from Oxford in 1597, and got his Master's degree five years later. I have obtained the 100% disproof that Lincoln had Winter encestry. Winter willed some property to his grandson TOM LINCOLN, but as he mentioned Tom's dad in same will, it was not Lincoln's dad, but a THOMAS LINCOLN, Jr. I've failed to find where Samuel Lincoln came from, the I once thought I was getting his parentage. I didn't.

Sincerely,

Dandskeiser Devid S. Keiser Din Grand parents

Lincoln Tombstone Stolen

FT. KNOX, Ky. (AP) — Something of value has been stolen from Ft. Knox, but it's not a gold brick that Kentucky state troopers are looking for.

Someone, somehow, spirit ed away the tombstone that marked the grave of Bersheba Lincoln, the grandmother of Abraham Lincoln. The granite monument was stolen from a remote cemetery on the military reservation.

Military police learned from an anonymous call on Labor Day that the stone had been taken.

State police say so far, they have found no clues.

Army engineers discovered the graves of Lincoln's ancestors in 1952 when they cleaned 94 civilian cemeteries that had been acquired by the base along with old farm land.

The graveyard where Lincoln's grandmother was buried is on the site of the old Mill Creek Baptist Church Cemetery.

Cemetery.
Lincoln's grandmother and her two daughters and a sonin-law were discovered to be buried in the cemetery. Lincoln was born in Kentucky but later moved to Illinois.

Former Illinois Gov. William G. Stratton and a group of dignitaries visited the site in 1960 with a gift from the state that adopted the name, "Land of Lincoln." The gift was the monument for Lincoln's grandmother.

Sam McDowell, a cemetery buff and author of "Fort Knox Cemeteries," says it is unlikely epitaph collectors or graveyard genealogists would steal the tombstone.

Sept-11-1975

26 The Lexington Leader, Lexington, Ky., Th

Lincoln Genealogy by Waldo Lincoln.

Thomas Lincoln married June 12 1806 (Washington Co. Ky. records) on Beach Fork Washington Co. Ky. , Nancy daughter it is claimed of Joseph and Nancy (Shipley) Hanks pf Amelia Co. Va. and Elizabethtown Ky. .born Feb. 5 1784 in Amelia Co. . She died Oct. 5 1818 at Gentryville Ind. Few women honestly married have been so maligned as she and strangely enough all thecaluminious stories of her origin and marriage have been due to the erdulity of one man whose ppportunities of learning the truth from the lip of the living were unequalled but who seemed to have put undue faith in the statements of Dennis Hanks who appears to have gone out of his way to caluminate and belittle both Nancy and her husband. Mr. Wm H. Herndon in the preface to his Life of Abraham Lincoln says "My long personal association with Mr. Lincoln gave me special facilities in the direction of obtaining materials for these volumes . Such werer our relations during all that portion of his life when he was rising to distinction that I had only to exercise a moderate vigilance in order to gather and preserve the real data of his personal career" . Yet Herndon and Lamon who used Herndons collections in writing his Life of Lincoln both believed until 1882 when the marriage record of Thomas and Nancy was discovered in Washington Co. that both Abraham and his mother were illegitimate and Herndon goes so far as to say that Abraham himself told him in 1850 , the only time when Mr. Lincoln ever refered to his ancestry "that his mother was the illegitimate daughter of Lucy Hank s and a well bred Virginia farmer". Elsewhere Mr. Herndon tells us that Mr. Lincoln ustally had but little to say himself of the lives of his parents or the history of his family before their semoval to Indiana. If he mentioned the Subject at all at was with great reluctance and significant reserve. There was something about his origin he never cared to dwell upon. In 1900 Mrs. Caroline Hanks Hitchcock published "Nancy Hanks the Story of Abraham Lincolns Mother" in which she attemots to prove that Nancy was the eighth and youngest

child if Joseph and Nancy Shipley Hanks : that they removed from Virginia to Kentucky about 1789 and settled near Elizabethtown: that her father died in 1793 leaving a will dated Jan 9 1793 in which he names his wife and all his children a and leaves to my daughter Nancy one heifer yearling called Peidy; that after her mothers death Nancy went to live with her mothers sister Mrs. Richard Berry who was Lucy Shipley befire her marriage and thatthis Richard Berry calling himself "garden" with Thomas Lincoln signed the marriage bond of Thomas and Nancy Hanks twom days before the marriage which marriage is recorded in the records of Washington Co. at Springfield certified by the Jesse Head D.H.E.ch (Deacon Methodist Episcopa church) The bond which is printed in facsimile in Miss Tarbells "Life of Lincoln" Vol 1 p/10 reads as follows (dod not copy the bond as I that it was in Warrens Lincoln's Parentage and Childhood" butncant find it) Since the publication of Mrs. Hithcocks book its statements have been accepted generally as true. If they are it is inconceivable that Abraham who was in his tenth year when his mother died and had lived nearly all his life near his mothers relatives should have believed that either he or his mother were lilegitamate or should have been told by his father or even by Dennis Hanks that his mother was the daughter legitimate of illegitimate of Lucy Hanks of whose existence no evidence has thus far been produced. Yet it is to be regretted that Mrs. Hitchcoc has not presented more conclusive evidence to prove that Joseph Hanks daughter named in his will was born as stated on Feb. 5 1784 and was the Nancy who was manax married to Thomas Lincoln in 1806. Unfortunately Mrs. Hitchcocks statements concerning Mr and Mrs. Richard Berry are contradicte bt he fact recently communicated to the writer that Richard Berry Sr. died in 1798 his will recorded in will book A p. 134 in which his wife is called Rachel . Nor was the wife of the younger Richard who was probab -ly the signer of the marriage bond named Lucy but Cally or Sally his m marriage to Cally Ewing being recorded . There was therefore no kind

Uncle Richard and Aunt Lucy as they were called by Mrs. Hitchcock for Nancy to have lived with until she was married and this rather casts a doubt upon all of Mrs Hitchcocks conclusions. It is hoped that further investigations may prove them correct.

Magazine "Geneal ogy" Sept. 1920.

1

In the quaint village of Hingham England County of Norfolk, the Lincolns were tradespeople as early as the fifteenth century.

2

Samuel Lincoln of Norfolk Co. vame to New England in 1737 at the age of 18, settled in Hingham Mass., one of the earliest and most picturesque towns in the colony

3.

Mordecai Lincoln, fourth son of Samuel was born in Hingham June 15 1657

He married Sarah Jones in Hull Mass. and removed to Scituate, another quaint old town in 1704

4.

The first son , Mordecai, Lincoln Jr. born April 24 1686 with his younger brother, Abraham, removed to Freehold Monmouth Co. N.J. Abraham was the village blacksmith.

In Freehold N.J. Mordecai married in 1710 Hannah Salter daughter of Richard Salter Berks Co. Penna. 1736.

6

John Lincoln eldest son of Mordecai Jr. in 1758 moved to Augusta Co. Va. Here in the wilderness he built one of the first log cabins. He had five sons among them Abraham

7.

Abraham the second of the name, son of John, married Mary Shipley who came from North Carolina, and they went to live on a farm in Tennessee in the Wautauga Valley. There is no more historic spot in America than the Wautauga Valley Here the Wautauga Association set up the first free and

independent government upon the continent. Herethe Kings Mountain Boys gat gathered from the hills and valleys to go and fight one of the decisive battles of the Revolution.

9.

At Wautauga the father of Abraham Lincoln was born. He grew to be a tall and stalwart pioneer and an expert hunter. While a lad he hired himself to his uncle Isaac Lincoln , living on Wautauga Creek.

In 1782 Abraham and son Thomas moved in vovered wagons to Kentucky entered a tract of 400 acres on Licking Creek and built a cabin at Fort Beargrass.

Lincoln Genealogy by Waldo C. Lincoln.

Mr Lincoln married mlicense given June 6 1770 in Augusta Co. Reargine
Virginia, Bathshebadaughter it is claimed of Leonard Herring of Bridgewater
Va., whose birth and death have not been learned. The marriage license
is printed in "Abstracts from the records of Augusta Co. Va. vol. 2 p.277"
but unfortunately the name of the bride is not given.

In claiming that her name was Bathsheba Herring the writer is aware that he is contradicting evry biographer of Prs. Lincoln since Nicholay and Hay on the authority of Hon. J.L.Nall of Missouri ,forst claimed that Abraham Lincoln married Mary Shipley and that she was the mother of all his children. Mr J.Henry Lea in searching for data for the ancestry of Abraham Lincoln seems to have been the first to notice that, the deed by which Abraham Lincoln sold his lands in Virginia, his wife was called Bathsheba but he did not learn of the record of Abrahams marriage license and accepted too hatily unsupported statements as to the dates of birth of Abraham and his children.

On the facts as he had them, Lea concluded that Mary Shipley was Abrahams first wife and the mother of four of his children; that she died about 1778 taht Abraham married Bathsheba Herring as his second wife about 1779 and that she was the mother of Thomas who? Lea claimed, was born Jan. 20 1780/ignoring the age which Pres. Lincoln in his family Bible ascribed to his father at his death, which would place Thomas's birth on Jan. 6 1778 and apparently ignorant that Nancy, the youngest child of Abraham was born March 25 1780. Mr Lea assumed that it was Bathshebas comfinement with Thomas in Jan. 1780 which accounted for her inability to attend the County Court in Feb. 1780 and in Sept. 1781. He applicated expressed a doubt whether she ever went to Kentucky and survived her husband, for the reason that, as teh mother of Thomas she would have defended the youth from the abuse and neglect which according to tradition he suffered at the hand s of his elder brothers. Honorable J.L.Nall of Carthage Mo. the

Nicolay and Hay that Abraham married Mary Shipley. Mr. Nalls sister, Mrs Louise Hardaway of Jasper Mi. Informed the writer that she remembered very distinctly her great grandmother Lincoln who lived to be near one hundred years oldend died at the home of her daughter Nancy and is buried in Mill Creek graveyard in Hardin Co. Kentucky , but no stone marks her grave. Mrs. Hardaway was not positive that Abrahams wifes name was Mary but that xitxwasxastxBathabat was the impression she had always had, and she was no certain that it was not Bathsheba but that, whatever her name, she was the mother of all the children . Maj. George Chrisman of Rockingham Co. Va. informed the writer that his great Aunt Betsey Herring, a maiden lady and a niece of Leonard Herring , the reputed father of Bathsheba, always said that Mordecai Lincaln was a son of Abraham and Bathsheba . She was confirmed by Mr. John Herring ,a cousin of Maj. Chrisman. To reconsile these conflicting statements , it was excently the theory of the writer that Bathsheba was Abrahams first wife and the mother of all his children; that she fell ill after the birth of Nansy which occured March 25 1780, grom which illness she died soon after renouncing her dower rights; that Abraham having sold his Virginia farm and purchased lands in Kentucky to which he had made all preparations to move, found himself a widower with five children , two of whom were in absolute need of a mothers care and tha he therefore married for a second wife and probably before leaving Va. Mary shipley who was therefore the stepmother of all the children and looked upon by the younger childrenn as their mother, Nancy certainly bein unable to remember any Eigerx other.

great grandson of Abraham Lincoln by his younger daughter Nancy, persuade

This theory has been proven false by a recent discovery among old papers in the Kentucky State Capitelat Frankfort of a number of early tax lists including the se for Washingtonn Col for the years 1792,1795, and 1800 These discredit the statements of Mr. Noll and Mr. Hardway and establish the fact that Bathsheba survived war husband and was certainly living in 1792 in Washington ounty Kyl where she was taxed on Oct. 16 as one

owning one horse and ten cattle but no land and as having one white male in her family between the ages of 16 and 21. this could not have been Thomas who was 14 years old in 1792 and must have been Josiah , proving that he was born between 1771 and 1776 and not on July 10 1766 as given in the ancestry of Abraham Lincoln p 84. Mordecai the oldest son was t taxed the same day as has mother being designated as a white male over 21 and must therefore have been born before Oxt. 16 1771 as han he was taxed dor 100 a. of land 1 horse and 2 cattle and as he and his mother were listed on the same day it as safe to assume that they were living together as one family, the mother owning most of the live stock. In 1795 the family had seperated as Hosiah and Thomas are listed seperately and Bathsinebas name disappears nor does it reappear in the list of 1800. the may have removed removed from Washington Co. or perhaps was living x I with her daughter Mary or she may have died the the recollection of Markaway is that her great grandmother lived to a great age in which she may be right, for the she and Mr. Nallare evidently mistaken as to her name they may be correct in other Particulars.

These tax lists as to whose discovery and contents the writer is indebted to the courtesy of Rev. Wm. E.Barton are of the utmost importance as rendering it practically certain that Abraham had but one wife .whose are christian name was Bathsheba, who, was the mother of all his children and survived him at least untill 1792, tthat her surname was Herring is p probable the her parentage and descent as previously given are bybno means proved. It is taken from the account of the family in the Ancestry of Abraham Lincoln which seems to be based largely on the tradition and is not supported by evidence. According to Abstracts from the Records of Augusta Co. vol 2 p. 276 Leonard Herron was granted a marriage license in August 1760. This may have been a second marriage but if not he could not have had a daughter old enough to be married in 1770.

The conditions of the Rockingham Co. records make it extremely doubtful that Bathshebas parentage will ever be proved.

the sales had been a second or per all the property of the expect may sales a the first first to bloom alor . 12 has to be such all mention of the land and Extract from Lincoln Magazine. Abraham Lincoln , son of John married Mary Shipley of North Carolina They had issue- Mordecai, Josiah, Thomas, Mary and Nancy. Il suro film a line a line a line in the contract of the cold to the cold t - was a second of the second o · in a second to the second the second the second the second terms and the second terms are second to the second terms are second terms are second to the second terms are second to the s TO THE TO THE WAR CONTROL OF A STATE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PR THE THE RESERVE SET OF THE STREET OF THE STR The state of the s o di serretto de la contraction de la contractio Androne is a color of the state por to be a lease to the angle of the contract Leading the late to make the control of the control THE THE PARTY OF T a with the second of the secon There's and an expect to the control of the second control of the and of the state o the new tags of the set of the contract of the second term to the seco the state of the s pro- por me il levere i come come come come dell'accordinate dell'accordin The state of the s process of the first of the first of the same of the s The second secon

HERRING FAMILY

VIRGINIA (behalen)

Herring. Welliam 1765 - June 23 Oversen of Road Dutted intestates

Signers to School - Jacob Lincoln David Trumfield, inchesed warren

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Herring. Alexander - and alexand Phoness metabeld.

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HERROH FAMILY Before Sterron, alexander Lived in agosla how Pirkery Reps as rough to 1746

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Herrin, le elliam.

derd whotate in 1806

widow. Elizabeth
clutch. "Sarah Houston; Riberra., "Edith, "mangaret, Welliams." Herrin, alexander dere untsterd bright lama 1751.

Sevicion General leur Bettered, Jusse. Herrin Leonard dullen, august, harma, Easter, Derin Shystith dier Feb. 1821 Childen alwans, Elizabeth, Educh Sharebler -Rebessle Deceris Manganit Porty " Com Herron -Sauch Herrston Decemb) Cologoing Chapley (duried,) Herm Williams wife, Jame, many hutchel Bersheber Herrem Bertran Jackson Va Dien in 1836 Seven son of Betheur Herrem Sehen sen y John som

1. Belhuel still hong in 1784

2. John Kielin in Boolulung

3. Leonard mans a Seolen Rusby hun worm 13 children

4 William mannied. — Stephinson

John Herrin burner in hullward country of Harrisonburg In 1792 the Herrin family lived at Payton when some of slam said live.

Members of the Herrin Family

Alexander Herrin lived in the Linville Creek region of Augusta county, Va. (now Rockingham county) as early as 1746. He emigrated to Virginia from the north, probably from Pennsylvania. His name appears in the records of Augusta county in a number of places, and in some places it is spelt Herron and Herren. In the county records are also found the following names: William Herren, Joseph, Samuel, Leonard, and bethwell or Bethuel Herring. The last named was a constable in 1773. William Herren owned 576 acres of land in Rockingham county in 1789.

B.C.Chappelear

We the Undernamed Subscribers ----- duly Sworen to appease the Following articles for the Use of an Expedition against the Wabash Indians Commanded by General Cla---- for Capt. George Pomeroy's Company; September the 8th, 1786.

The state of the s
A Cow the Property of Richard Chenowitz to Six Pounds Collars 358
A Steer the Property of John McManes to Four Pounds
A Steer the Property of Robert Eakens to Six Pounds
A Stray Steer at William. Murrys at Linns Station to Three Pounds3 - 0 - 0
A bull supposed to be the Property of Capt. Brakenridge or William Robison
A steer the Property of John Humes to six Pounds
A Cow the Property of Christian Shake to six Pounds
A Blanket the Property of Arthur Chenowitz to one pound fourteen
shillings
A Steer the Property of John Reed to Five Pounds
A Blanket the Property of Robert Mc Cune to twelve shillings0 - 12 - 0
A Bag the Property of Sam Shannon of Narsheres Creer
A Bag the Property of Moses Kirkpatrick to Nine Shillings 9 - 0
A bag the Property of George Pomeroy to twelve shillings
A bag the Property of William Rice to fifteen shillings
Four Lash Ropes four Halters belonging to James A. Sturges Senr0 - 6 - 0
A Packsaddle belonging to John Holt
A Gun the Property of Moses Tyler
A Gun Shotbag and Powderhorn the Property of Robt. Tyler
A Shotbag Powderhorn Blanket and Packsaddle the Property of
Henner Seaton
A Gun the Property of the Widow Lincoln
A Mare the Property of George Pomeroy Collus 373
A Mare the Property of James Patterson
A Packsaddle the Property of Blair Ballard
A Blanket the Property of Benj. Hun Con Rom
A Packsaddle the Property of Robt. McCune
A Honor the Draw when a grant This are
A Gun the Property of Abner Hughes with Shotbag and horn9 - 0 - 0
A Bag the Property of John Reed to twelve shillings
A Bag the Property of John Sharp to twelve shillings
A Mare the Property of John Reed to Sixteen Pounds
A bell the Property of John Reed to ten shillings
A bell and bell strap the Property of Nicholas Russel
A Horse the Property of Eden Horton to twelve pounds
A bag the Property of Daniel Curry to six shillings

James A. Sturges Henner Seaton



LINCOLN VS. YORK LAND COVENANT BROKEN

Feb. 1, 1788

I promise or cause to be done for Barshe Lincoln
the clearing of two acros of land smack smothe for four pounds the work is to be done
this spring and six acros more to be cleared for for the plew for six pounds.

Test James Cullough Jerimejah York Entertined before signed

Suit brought against him for covenant broken and recover

of 20 pounds asked.

May 20, 1788

Endorsement

Not executed by order of Plaintiff.

Thompson Bridges August, 1788

Buddel Judgments, August, 1788

Whom County Count (anaut)



Dr. T. W. Johnson Gov. James D. Williams John W. Furnas
Dandridge Tucker Gen. George Russ Alex Herron
Levi Pennington Dr. Allen Furnas J. D. Kingsbury, of Indiana Farmer

GOV. WILLIAMS AS A FARMER

Log Rolling on the Farm of Dr. Furnas near Danville, Ind.

Copyright 1877

Wade, Norton & Co.

Indiana Magazine of History June '26

Jefferson County Circuit Court Papers

Court House

June 4, 1883

John Todd's name

Know all men by the presents that I Squire Boone and Paul Steel of the County of Lincoln and State of Virginia promise to pay seven shillings.... to Frances Jack

Feb. 21, 1783

Squire Boone

Ist. Joseph Wilson

Paul x Steel

Benj. Roberts appeared as bail for Boone

#1213

Walter Stallard signed as witness on certificate of Floyd to Wells. Samuel Wells signature

June 20, 1785

#2248

Squire Boone of Jefferson County to Isaac Hite 210 pounds, April 24, 1784

Test. Ben Patton

Squire Boone

Jos. Hite

#369

I acknowledge myself to be bail for Capt. John Rogers. Given under my hand the 31st January 1784

Test Ben Pope

Executed John Clark bail

Ben Pope, B.S.

#339

Edward Goodwin

Dan Triplett

with

Bland Ballard

October 4, 1781

#358

Signature of W. Clark on an endorsement by John Montgomery, April 7, 1785 #869

Catherine Frye, asse John Read, asse Isaac Keller, asse

vs.

Papers Joseph Sprigg and William Pope, Ex'or. Meredith Price, December

"We the subscribers do promise to pay Isaac Keller his certain attorney heirs or assignes the just and full sum of 3 pounds 5 shillings current money of Virginia with lawful interest thereon if not punctually paid by the twenty seventh day of November next ensuing value received of him to which payment will and hereby to be made. We bind ourselves our each of our several heitrs, executors and administrators Lincoln by these presents in the penal sum of six pounds ten shillings money aforesaid. Witness our hand and seal this 27th May Anno Dom 1783.

Sealed and Delivered In presence of D. T. Standeford Moses Kuykendall Joseph Sprigg seal Mer.th Price seal

(To be ordered vs. Wm. Pope Extor. of Price)

Endorsements

Memorandum. The within Bond was taken for a saddle the private property of the within names Isaac Keller

Mer.th Price

I do assign over all my right and title of the within note to Thomas Reed for value received of him as witness my hand this 12th day of October, 1783.

Isaac Keller

I do hereby asign over the within note unto Cally George it being for value received of her as witness my hand this 21 day of December 1783.

John Reed

Test.

Abrm. Lincoln

Keller

vs Bond

Sprigg & Jefferson

Price

L 3..5

Catherine Frye, asse John Read, asse Isaac Keller, asse

VS.

Papers Joseph Sprigg and William Pope, Extor. Meredith Price, December

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vs Bond

Sprigg & Jefferson

Price

L 3..5

References to Bersheba Herring a braham Lewert he husband of B. H. page 233 abien Lucella as stated married B, H page 285 -Early brogreefly send first my him shiply fall mostic gale and agreefly that their was only one wife 3et shiply beated organic by a L . Ballistiba. 103 25 L 283. acknowle Will war with a first of the state of the s



Its name indicates its character

Policy No.

Enclosed is a Policy Loan Note for \$. From this amount the following deductions will be made when the check is issued:

1- -1735 by hangaret a. alexander aa alexander - 1708 - 1778 married al- - (paris- ? ab Eady dayther ac Esther (wood) ad Sarath (Brittyman) atomp dules menter in will goh Sind gladden Hannah fyder Soreh Rebeccer Namy Many.



The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company

Its name indicates its character

Policy No.

Enclosed is a Policy Loan Note for \$.

From this amount the following deductions will be made when the check is issued:

Montgomery, Eliquech morrier a mi Glamore montgomen Bothour manuel a, Emeren. Posh auguster and

POSSIBLE PATERHAL GRAHOPAREHTS PARENTS OF PIONEER'S WIFE

Boone. Joseph 6. 1721 married may 30. 1750. (Hamali was his wife in 1717)

Howah H.

Jook out removed from Enter meeting in 1762 of things boling

Buys land of John & Ealler Lean Livelle City. 1768

Swip land of John & Ealler Lean Livelle City. 1768

Joseph & Protein willed Shauk Justin

Joseph & Course and Consult Sweeth of Livelle of hunde

Course January Boon (6.1734)

Course January Joseph Letting 1787

Course January Joseph Letting 1787 a Josiah Boom in Jefferen wunder Herting 1787

Winters, William married (st) 1747 first child born in 1748. Boone. anna (annie) antenne Robe Henrison, well in 1761 Four sons and som daughles by this manning. Bought land on Liwell Creek in 1262 of John hiller & foundy walm minter of Crowns Co So Can sole leure of 1267 4 Elizabeth m (alrechem Lincoln) 2 namey - m. george Crowford June 22, 1759. genger, server in Revolution was from Berks County 1776 John. would to Kentucky with a. S. just before Lines died is see about land Chen

Herring Seonard married, 1761

In augusty county with 1758 On wave belition 1765

Brothers, Oler adder, wm. Dethud Jesse Comy in 1776

from at law of allerances Herrin

Suchn Edigdie. Edith;

Children William M.

abigal M. David A.

nami my Bound Curry abigal W Jan 22 1 (0) set emis pour mer 18 1800

(301A



